Protection of Majuli Island, Assam

1809. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Brahmaputra Board prepared a Special Report for the protection of Majuli Island, Assam during 1997;

(b) if so, the long and short-term measures suggested for protection of the Island;

(c) the steps initiated by Government to implement the recommendations; and

(d) the number of projects already sanctioned for Majuli Island and amount allocated so far against such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Brahmaputra Board in their report has recommended taking up anti erosion schemes; repair & strengthening of dykes and roads; construction of spurs and other permeable structures under short term measures. Under long term measures catchment area treatment; construction of revetments and implementation of storages on Subansiri & Dihang rivers were suggested.

(c) and (d) The Union Government has approved three schemes, prepared by the Government of Assam, for flood moderation in the Majuli area and one drainage scheme prepared by the Brahmaputra Board has also been cleared techno-economically. These schemes are to be implemented by the Government of Assam from the funds allocated under State Flood control sector by the Planning Commission.

Construction of dams on Subangiri and Siang Rivers

1810. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of harnessing Brahmaputra by constructing three dams on the Subangiri river and three dams on Siang (Dihang) river;

(b) whether the pre-feasibility of these dams has been established by an inspection team comprising officers of Central Water Commission, Geological Survey of India, Brahmaputra Board and Government of Arunachal Pradesh jointly during December, 1995 and February, 1996;

(c) whether the investigation and preparation of DPRs are scheduled to be completed during Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) what is the progress uptil now and whether it will be completed in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The investigation at alternative sites for construction of three moderately high dams each on Subansiri and Siang river has been taken up by the Brahmaputra Board.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The investigation as well as the preparation of the Detailed Project Reports for 3 dams each on the rivers Subansiri & Siang have been taken up and are scheduled to be completed during IX and X Plan respectively.

World bank aided irrigation projects

1811. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) the present status of on going World Bank aided irrigation projects in the country;

(b) whether there has been inordinate dely in execution of these projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?